



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Ann M. Kuster
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kuster:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

As noted in my November 19, 2014, memorandum to the EPA's Regional Air Division Directors, the agency is taking the next steps in its ongoing work to address the issues associated with biogenic carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from stationary sources as a part of a broad climate strategy.

To continue advancing the agency's technical understanding of the role biomass can play in reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions, the EPA has developed a second draft of the technical report, the *Framework for Assessing Biogenic Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) from Stationary Sources*. The revised report takes into account the latest information from the scientific community and other stakeholders. The EPA is continuing to refine its accounting work through a second round of targeted peer review with the Science Advisory Board.¹

The memorandum also describes the EPA's current thinking pertaining to biogenic CO₂ emissions in the context of the CPP. The agency expects that state reliance on waste-derived feedstocks and agricultural- and forest-derived feedstocks from sustainable practices may be approvable elements of state compliance plans under the CPP. This approach is consistent with the goal in the President's Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gases and promote climate resiliency of forests. Conservation and sustainable management can help to ensure our forests and other lands continue to remove carbon from the atmosphere while also improving soil and water quality, reducing wildfire risk, and otherwise managing forests to be more resilient in the face of climate change. Many states already recognize the importance of forests and other lands for climate resilience and mitigation, and have developed a variety of sustainable forestry and land use management policies and programs to address these concerns.

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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Josh Lewis in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at lewis.josh@epa.gov or (202) 564-2095.

Sincerely,

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Westerman:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Welch:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



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JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Ann Kirkpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kirkpatrick:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



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JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Peter DeFazio
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman DeFazio:

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Scott Tipton
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Tipton:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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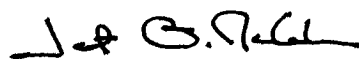
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Paul Tonko
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Tonko:

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Acting Assistant Administrator



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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Richard Nolan
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Nolan:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Collin C. Peterson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Sean Duffy
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Duffy:

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Walter B. Jones
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Jones:

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Janet G. McCabe
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
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The Honorable Sean Patrick Maloney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Mark Takai
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Takai:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

As noted in my November 19, 2014, memorandum to the EPA's Regional Air Division Directors, the agency is taking the next steps in its ongoing work to address the issues associated with biogenic carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from stationary sources as a part of a broad climate strategy.

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The memorandum also describes the EPA's current thinking pertaining to biogenic CO₂ emissions in the context of the CPP. The agency expects that state reliance on waste-derived feedstocks and agricultural- and forest-derived feedstocks from sustainable practices may be approvable elements of state compliance plans under the CPP. This approach is consistent with the goal in the President's Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gases and promote climate resiliency of forests. Conservation and sustainable management can help to ensure our forests and other lands continue to remove carbon from the atmosphere while also improving soil and water quality, reducing wildfire risk, and otherwise managing forests to be more resilient in the face of climate change. Many states already recognize the importance of forests and other lands for climate resilience and mitigation, and have developed a variety of sustainable forestry and land use management policies and programs to address these concerns.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Bruce Poliquin
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Poliquin:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Jerry McNerney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman McNerney:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Tony Cardenas
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Cardenas:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Garamendi:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Dan Benishek
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Benishek:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Schrader:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2015, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of biomass in the proposed Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the need to recognize the multiple benefits of sustainably-sourced, renewable biomass feedstocks. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 29 2015

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Mark Pocan
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Pocan:

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